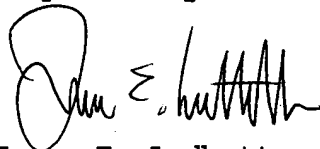


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 7, 8, 15 and 16 in order to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. New claims 19-22 are added to recapture the subject matter in the amended claims.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'James E. Ledbetter', with a stylized, cursive script.

James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: June 9, 2005

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.05148

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.  
Suite 850  
1615 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Telephone: (202) 785-0100  
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200